Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SEOUL 02858 100630Z
ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01
INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15
ICA-11 OMB-01 CU-00 IO-13 /085 W
----------067742 100637Z /16
P 100520Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0337

C O N F I D E N T I A L SEOUL 2858

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SHUM PINS KS US
SUBJ: TRIAL OF AUTHOR AND PUBLISHER

REF: SEOUL 2679 AND PREVIOUS

1. SEOUL DISTRICT COURT CONTINUED TRIAL OF AUTHOR YI YONG-HUI AND PUBLISHER PAEK NAK-CHONG ON APRIL 8. TWO DEFENSE WITNESSES TESTIFIED. OVERFLOW CROWD, MAINLY OF STUDENTS, ATTENDED.

2. FIRST WITNESS, KIM KI-SOK, A WRITER WHO IS INTERESTED IN RURAL AFFAIRS, SOUGHT TO EXPLAIN THAT PROFESSOR YI'S COMMENTS ON RURAL SCENE WERE NOT AIMED AT PRAISING COMMUNISM BUT IN AWAKENING FARMER'S INITIATIVE. POINT AT ISSUE WAS PROSECUTION CHARGE THAT IN PERTINENT ARTICLE YI QUOTED MAO TSE-TUNG IN SUCH A MANNER AS TO SHOW HIGH REGARD FOR MAO'S ANALYSIS OF RURAL PROBLEMS IN LDC'S.

3. SECOND WITNESS, SONG KON-HO, A FORMER EDITOR OF TONGA ILBO, ADDRESSED SAME THEME AS WITNESS KIM AND ALSO DEFENDED PROFESSOR YI'S REMARKS IN ARTICLE "RECKLESS REMARKS OF JAPANESE PRIME MINISTER TANAKA" IN WHICH YI ALLEGEDLY SAID IT WAS GOOD TO HEAR NORTH KOREAN OBSERVER SPEAK AT UN. SONG SAID YI WAS NOT PRAISING NORTH
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KOREAN OBSERVER BUT WAS REFERRING TO FACT THAT SINCE KOREANS ARE SUCH A MINORITY IN THE WORLD, IT WAS SATISFYING TO HEAR KOREAN LANGUAGE USED IN WORLD BODY EVEN THOUGH WORDS WERE IN MOUTH OF NORTH KOREAN DELEGATE.

4. CASE IS REACHING CONCLUDING STAGE. NEXT SESSION SCHEDULED FOR APRIL 15 WITH PERHAPS ONE OR TWO MORE

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HEARINGS LIKELY.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Draft Date: 10 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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TAGS: SHUM, PINS, KS, US, (YI YONG-HUI), (PAEK NAK-CHONG)
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